

Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Harry Teague named Las Cruces resident Robert Anderson as his latest “Veteran of the Month.” Anderson served in the Marine Corps during WWII as a fighter pilot in the central Pacific, flying more than 60 missions and receiving two Distinguished Flying Crosses and four Air Medals for his service. Up until a few years ago, he flew with the Las Cruces Civil Air Patrol, assisting with search and rescue missions and patrolling the border.

“I commend Robert Anderson’s selfless service, both to our nation during World War II and to the citizens in southern New Mexico he has helped over the years,” said Harry Teague, New Mexico’s only representative on the House Veterans Affairs Committee. “His courage and continued service exemplify the dedication of all our veterans, so I want to take this opportunity to recognize his heroism and to thank him for his loyalty to our country.”

Harry Teague will honor Mr. Anderson with a presentation on Sunday, August 1, at Congressman Teague’s district office in Las Cruces. Teague will present Anderson with a flag flown over the capitol, Teague’s personal Challenge Coin and a certificate recognizing this honor. Interested media are invited to attend.

Anderson graduated as a naval aviator in April of 1943 and served with the Marine Corps in the Solomon Islands for a year. He also spent a year on a carrier squadron and a year in northern China as a WWII fighter pilot. Anderson ended his military career in 1947 and went on to earn a degree from Texas A&M University. He briefly owned a small ranch outside of Lovington, NM, in the 1950s but was later employed for 25 years by the Bureau of Land Management, where he was an area manager, range conservationist and realty specialist. He joined the Civil Air Patrol during this time and assisted with emergency services and disaster relief operations in and around southern New Mexico . Anderson celebrated his 89th

birthday with his wife, Bernice, in April.

Congressman Teague’s “Veteran of the Month” program is designed to promote veterans issues and is coordinated by his Veterans Advisory Council, comprised of distinguished veterans from across southern New Mexico. Each month, a veteran will be recognized for their service overseas and here at home. To nominate a veteran for the “Veteran of the Month Program” please contact Major Nathan Howard at Nathan.howard@mail.house.gov .

Sunday, August 1st:

What: Veteran of the Month Ceremony recognizing Robert Anderson

Where: Congressman Teague’s Las Cruces District Office, 135 W Griggs, Las Cruces

When: Sunday, August 1st, 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM

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